

Roger Daniels, Sandra C. Taylor, and Harry H. L. Kitano, eds.
Japanese Americans: From Relocation to Redress. (Salt Lake City:
University of Utah Press, 1986) xxi, 216 pp., \$24.95.

This collection of previously unpublished essays grew out of a conference in Salt Lake City in 1983 on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and the issue of redress. It includes essays by the three editors and contributions, some no more than brief notes, by twenty-seven individuals. It also includes a detailed chronology of Japanese-American history and comprehensive bibliographical notes.

The relocation was the single most important event in the history of the Japanese in America, leaving a sore on their collective consciousness that the passage of over forty years has not fully healed. Thus, it is fitting that this book should focus on that event. The essays range from personal narratives to studies of such diverse matters as the psychological and economic effects of the relocation, the role of churches in ameliorating the situation, congressional attitudes toward the "evacuation," and the reception of the relocated Japanese by several states. Despite its title, the volume also contains essays on the treatment of the Japanese in Canada and Latin America.

As with most collections of this sort, the essays are uneven. Not all of them are cogently written or have much to say that has not been said repeatedly. What the volume does best is to explore areas that are less familiar. Particularly informative and fresh are such essays as those by Dennis M. Ogawa and Evarts C. Fox on the Japanese in Hawaii, Sandra C. Taylor on the economic losses suffered by the Japanese, Tetsuden Kashima and John J. Culley on internment (as distinguished from relocation) camps, and Leonard J. Arrington on the reaction in Utah to the relocation.

Especially timely and provocative are the several essays that deal with redress and debate the strategies for winning compensation. Some persons, including Japanese Americans, would argue that the relocation was a blessing in disguise, breaking up the isolated ethnic communities, dispersing the people to different parts of the country, and bringing them into the mainstream of American life. Such a view is not espoused by any of the contributors. As legislation to enact the recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians makes its way through Congress and debate (particularly on the provision to award each surviving internee a sum of \$20,000) intensifies, the essays in this book and especially those on redress can provide useful background information.

The most disappointing selections, somewhat surprisingly, are those devoted to personal reminiscences of life in the centers. Although they remind us of the physical hardships endured—the drab barracks, the latrines, the dust, the hostile climate—they do not sufficiently relate what transpired in the hearts and minds of the evacuees as they lived

through one of the most extraordinary episodes in American history. Far greater than the economic losses and physical privation was the emotional and spiritual toll of the evacuation. The first-person narratives do not tellingly show in what profound ways Executive Order 9066 touched the lives of ordinary people.

Despite its shortcomings, *Japanese Americans: From Relocation to Redress* is an important contribution to scholarship. It helps to illuminate one of the darker chapters in American history. And at this time of celebrating the bicentennial of the Constitution, it serves to remind us what can happen to any vulnerable minority when constitutional guarantees are suspended out of hysteria, greed, and, above all, racism.

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Lenwood G. Davis, with the assistance of Marsha L. Moore. *Malcolm X: A Selected Bibliography.* (Westport, Ct: Greenwood Press, 1984) xiii, 136 pp., \$29.95.

Malcolm X's central role in contemporary black thought and life means that students of history, sociology, religion, politics, and literature (to begin a list) must study him carefully. This volume provides a useful starting place, and every reasonable public collection should have a copy. Unfortunately, the cost and several shortcomings limit its use for personal libraries.

The book's value lies in its having almost 1200 items, including audio-visual materials, records, and poetry inspired by Malcolm. The print materials identified are often articles from major newspapers and such journals as *The Militant* during the early 1960s. They provide the scholar with important material about reaction to Malcolm X in the last years of his life.

Many items are briefly annotated—a mixed blessing. I always appreciate those who annotate bibliographic entries, but I did not always find the annotations in this volume helpful. "States that Malcolm X was once known as 'Detroit Red'" is a particularly egregious example; but I thought too many were of the same sort. Others were quite helpful.

For me, the book's major flaws lie in other areas: (1) it is not organized well; (2) it has no clear basis for selecting items; and (3) it is curiously incomplete. Davis separates items into books or articles and according to whether he considers them "major" or "general." Within those broad and unrevealing headings, 200 to 400 items are alphabetized. Surely a more helpful classification system is possible. As it is, the scholar who wishes